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
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**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET**

DATE: January 13, 2006

TO: Examiner Lois L. Zheng  
Group Art Unit: 1742  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/042,549  
For: TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS  
AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THE SAME  
Our Ref.: CPM00029CIP (3600-328-01)

FROM: Luke A. Kilyk, Esq. 

FAC. TEL. NO.: 1-571-273-8300

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 5

Items Attached: Notice of Appeal -- 2 pages  
Petition for 3-month Extension of Time -- 1 page  
Fee Transmittal -- 1 page

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-571-273-8300 on January 13, 2006.

Kim Blum  
Name (Print)

  
Signature

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PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0851-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2005		Complete if Known																																																																																																																																																																																			
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ADDITIONAL FEES</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 0.8em;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Large Entity</th> <th colspan="2">Small Entity</th> <th rowspan="2">Fee Description</th> <th rowspan="2">Fee Paid</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Fee Code</th> <th>Fee (\$)</th> <th>Fee Code</th> <th>Fee (\$)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1051</td> <td>130</td> <td>2051</td> <td>65</td> <td>Surcharge - late filing fee or oath</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1052</td> <td>50</td> <td>2052</td> <td>25</td> <td>Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1053</td> <td>130</td> <td>1053</td> <td>130</td> <td>Non-English specification</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1812</td> <td>2,520</td> <td>1812</td> <td>2,520</td> <td>For filing a request for ex parte reexamination</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1804</td> <td>920*</td> <td>1804</td> <td>920*</td> <td>Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1805</td> <td>1,840*</td> <td>1805</td> <td>1,840*</td> <td>Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1251</td> <td>120</td> <td>2251</td> <td>60</td> <td>Extension for reply within first month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1252</td> <td>450</td> <td>2252</td> <td>225</td> <td>Extension for reply within second month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1253</td> <td>1020</td> <td>2253</td> <td>510</td> <td>Extension for reply within third month</td> <td>1,020.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1254</td> <td>1590</td> <td>2254</td> <td>795</td> <td>Extension for reply within fourth month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1255</td> <td>2160</td> <td>2255</td> <td>1080</td> <td>Extension for reply within fifth month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1401</td> <td>500</td> <td>2401</td> <td>250</td> <td>Notice of Appeal</td> <td>500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1402</td> <td>500</td> <td>2402</td> <td>250</td> <td>Filing a brief in support of an appeal</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1403</td> <td>1000</td> <td>2403</td> <td>500</td> <td>Request for oral hearing</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1451</td> <td>1510</td> <td>1451</td> <td>1,510</td> <td>Petition to institute a public use proceeding</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1452</td> <td>500</td> <td>2452</td> <td>250</td> <td>Petition to revive - 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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-571-273-8300 on January 13, 2006.

Kim Blum  
Name (Print)

Signature